

ABSOLUTE RATING: Below Average

IMPROVEMENT RATING: Below Average

Number of districts with students like ours: 20.

The absolute ratings for those districts ranged from below average to good. For improvement ratings, the range was from unsatisfactory to good.

Definitions of District Rating Terms

Excellent- District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

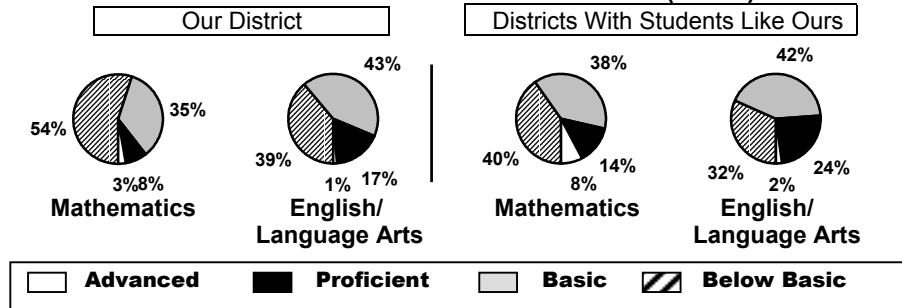
Good- District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Average- District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Below Average- District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Unsatisfactory- District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS



DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL TERMS:

- Advanced** – Student performance exceeded expectations.
- Proficient** – Student performance met expectations.
- Basic** – Student performance met minimum performance expectations.
- Below Basic** – Student performance did not meet minimum performance expectations.

PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS

Student Group	Percent of Seniors Passing the Exit Exam	Percent of Seniors Qualifying for LIFE Scholarships	Percent of Students Scoring Basic or Above on the PACT	
			ELA	Math
All Students	86.5%	9.6%	61.2%	45.1%
Students with disabilities other than Speech	75.0%	0.0%	30.3%	20.2%
Students without disabilities	86.4%	9.7%	65.8%	48.6%
Gender				
Male	86.0%	8.6%	56.5%	44.8%
Female	86.1%	10.4%	67%	46%
Ethnic Group				
African-American	78.7%	0.0%	51.5%	33.7%
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
White	92.7%	10.5%	73.2%	58%
Other	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lunch Status				
Free/ Reduced-Price Lunch	79.8%	2.7%	53.6%	36.2%
Pay for Lunch	90.7%	16.1%	72.1%	56.8%

TENTH GRADE PASSAGE OF ONE OR MORE SUBTESTS OF THE EXIT EXAM

	First-time Examinees		
	1999	2000	2001
Our district			
Passed all 3 subtests	55.0%	60.5%	60.9%
Passed 2 subtests	20.1%	18.8%	18.0%
Passed 1 subtest	16.0%	14.6%	10.2%
Passed no subtest	8.9%	6.1%	10.9%
Districts with students like ours			
Passed all 3 subtests	60.6%	63.7%	66.6%
Passed 2 subtests	19.5%	18.8%	16.7%
Passed 1 subtest	12.3%	10.7%	10.3%
Passed no subtest	7.7%	6.8%	6.4%

LIFE scholarships at four-year institutions

	Eligible	Percent of Seniors Meeting Grade Point Average Requirement	Meeting SAT/ACT Requirement
Our District	9.6%	27.6%	15.4%
Districts Like Ours	18.5%	49.0%	19.6%

College Admissions Tests: Tests that are frequently used in the college admissions process.

	SAT Verbal		SAT Math		SAT Total		ACT English		ACT Math		ACT Reading		ACT Science		ACT Total	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
District	442	462	447	473	889	935	16.9	17.2	17.3	17.5	17.8	17.3	17.7	17.8	17.6	17.6
State	484	486	482	488	966	974	18.7	18.8	19.2	19.3	19.5	19.5	19.2	19.2	19.3	19.3
Nation	505	506	514	514	1019	1020	20.5	20.5	20.7	20.7	21.4	21.3	21.0	21.0	21.0	21.0

These tests were administered to samples of students:

Terra Nova Test: A national, norm-referenced achievement test.

Percent scoring in upper half

	Reading		Language		Math		Total	
	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
Grade 4	47.8	50.0	43.1	50.0	58.4	50.0	50.5	50.0
Grade 7	45.8	50.0	59.4	50.0	54.7	50.0	53.9	50.0
Grade 10	59.6	50.0	59.5	50.0	62.4	50.0	59.1	50.0

National Assessment of Education Progress : A national, criterion-referenced achievement test.

Percents of Students

Test	Grade	Year	Advanced		Proficient		Basic		Below Basic	
			State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
Reading	4	1998	4	6	18	23	33	32	45	39
Writing	8	1998	0	1	15	23	64	59	21	17
Mathematics	4	2000	2	3	16	23	42	43	40	31

DISTRICT PROFILE

INDICATORS OF DISTRICT PERFORMANCE

	This District	Change from Last Year	Districts With Students Like Ours	Median District
DISTRICT				
• Dollars per student	\$6,014	N/A	\$6,244	\$6,464
• Prime instructional time	88.8%	Up from 82.2%	89.1%	89.4%
• Student-teacher ratio	23.9 to 1	N/A	20 to 1	20.2 to 1
• Vacancies for more than nine weeks	0%	N/A	0.9%	0.6%
STUDENTS (n=6,625)				
• Advanced placement/ int'l baccalaureate program exam success ratio	17.9%	N/A	48%	43.8%
• Attendance Rate	95.3%	Up from 94.5%	95.4%	95.7%
• Taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	3.3%	N/A	4.7%	5.8%
• Taking PACT (Math) off grade level	2.3%	N/A	4.2%	4.5%
• Retention rate	9.1%	Up from 8.8%	6.2%	6.0%
TEACHERS (n=469)				
• Professional development days per teacher	5 Days	Down from 9.2	7.6 Days	7.8 Days
• Attendance rate	94.6%	Up from 89.9%	95%	95.2%
• Advanced Degrees	51%	Down from 54.6%	46.4%	44.4%
• Continuing contracts	78%	Down from 80.5%	82%	81.4%
• Out-of-field permits	1.5%	Up from 1.3%	2.3%	2.2%
• Teachers returning from the previous year	87.2%	Down from 89.7%	89.8%	89.5%
• Average salary	\$37,797	Up 3.7%	\$37,078	\$37,143

DISTRICT FACTS

DISTRICT				
• Annual dropout rate	9.7%	Up from 4.5%	3%	2.9%
• Percentage spent on teacher salaries	54.4%	N/A	51%	50.9%
• Superintendent's years in the district	0.5	N/A	2	3.5
• Parent conferences	78.9%	N/A	78.8%	81.0%
• Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	N/A	Excellent	Excellent
• Number of schools	10	No change	10	8
• Number of alternative schools	0	No change	0	0
• Number of charter schools	0	No change	0	0
• Number of magnet schools	0	N/A	0	0
• Portable classrooms	2%	N/A	8.7%	6.5%
• Attendance rate of district office staff	95.7%	Down from 97.8%	97%	97.5%
• Average administrative salary	\$60,919	Up 3.2%	\$62,594	\$64,098
STUDENTS				
• Enrollment in adult education GED or diploma programs	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
• Percent of completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
• Suspensions and expulsions	720	N/A	94	100
• Percent eligible for state gifted and talented programs	4.8%	Down from 7.1%	10.5%	10.5%
• Percentage with disabilities other than speech	10.5%	Up from 9.6%	10.8%	10.5%

Chester School District
109 Hinton Street
Chester, SC 29706



Grades K-12

Enrollment: 6,625 Students

Superintendent Barry E. Campbell 803-385-6122

Board Chair Denise C. Lawson 803-581-6224

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Annual District Report Card	2001
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DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Chester County School District is a community of learners, parents, teachers, and administrators. During the 2000-2001 school year, the district had 6,563 students and 825 employees. The district has 3 elementary schools, 3 middle schools, 3 high schools, and a career center. The school system operates with a \$34 million budget. 57% of teachers have a Master's Degree or above. The district offers a variety of programs designed to meet the special needs of students. These include, but are not limited to, gifted/talented, academic assistance, honors classes, advanced placement, tech prep, college prep, pre-kindergarten, full-day kindergarten, career education, reading recovery, two-way interactive distance learning studios, and technology support for instruction. All Chester County schools are fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Academic achievement and success for all students is the driving force for all instructional initiatives in the school district. The district strategic & accountability plan outlines three learner standards: 1) students are able to meet grade level expectations; 2) students will display respect and appreciation for themselves, their peers, adults, and property; students will recognize and value cultural diversity; 3) students are aware of career opportunities and the necessary academic preparation. The district has developed an early literacy initiative. This plan for improving student achievement in the elementary grades, focuses heavily on strong instructional leadership, extended learning opportunities for students, a balanced approach to literacy instruction with an emphasis on direct instruction and higher order thinking skills, safety nets for students who need additional help, and alignment among standards, instruction, and assessment at the classroom level. Academic achievement in the district is improving. PACT scores at or above basic increased in 2000 over the 1999 scores in every area in grades 3-8 with the exception of 6th grade ELA. SAT scores in 2000 for seniors with 20 or more academic credits increased 24 points each in verbal and math over the 1999 scores. The percentage of 10th grade students meeting standard on the Exit Exam increased in writing and math in 2000, but decreased in reading. The percentage of students scoring ready on CSAB increased in 2000. The district continues to assess, revise, and refine instructional strategies to address skills gaps and student deficiencies.

South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit our website at

www.myscschools.com